COMMUNITY READINESS TOOLS/INFORMATION

In response to Alaska's request for information regarding models which could be used to assess community readiness, the following resources were identified.

1. Community readiness information from the Minnesota Department of Human Resources and Search Institute. This consists of a community readiness survey and two articles giving background information and summaries.

Source: Timothy Beebe, Minnesota Department of Human Services & Anu Sharma, Search Institute, "The Community Readiness Survey: How to Tell if Your Community is Ready for Prevention Services." Program Sharing Conference, 1998.

"Community Readiness Survey" and "CSAP State Prevention Needs Assessment Study Protocol" submitted by Minnesota Department of Human Services.)

2. Hard copy of NIDA's Community Readiness Assessment Tool which can be found on the Western CAPT web-site.

Source: Community Readiness for Drug Abuse Prevention: Issues, Tips and Tools. 1997, NIDA.

3. Three articles on community readiness assessment produced by the TriEthnic Center for Prevention Research, Colorado State University.

These are the most recent articles on community readiness from the TriEthnic Center. They focus on the "Community Readiness Model," which is a tool for assessing the level of a community's readiness to develop and implement prevention programming. They discuss the same nine stages of readiness that are published in the NIDA Community Readiness book (above) and reproduced in the Western CAPT web-site.

The method used in the Community Readiness Model, which includes interviewing key informants and aggregating and rating responses, is probably too cumbersome to meet your immediate needs for the SIG process. However these articles do offer strategies for moving a community from one stage to another, and the key informant questions attached to the back of the two longer articles might be helpful. Additionally, the article "Readiness for Drug Use Prevention" summarizes a community readiness study involving rural and American Indian communities.

Source: Plested, B. A., Jumper-Thurman, P.J., Edwards, R. W., & Oetting, E.R., (Spring, 1998). Community Readiness: A Tool for Effective Community-Based Prevention. Prevention Researcher.

Plested, B. , Smitham, D.M., Thurman, P.J., Oetting, E.R. & Edwards, R.W., (in press). Readiness for Drug Use Prevention in Rural Minority Communities. Substance Use and Misuse.

Thurman, P.J., Plested, B.A., Edwards, R.W. & Oetting, E.R., (in press - 1998). Using the Community Readiness Model in Native Communities. CSAP monograph.)